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MAKING FISHING HARD.

Newfoundland Official Deplores Too Much Legislation.

In the course of an address before the combined crews of the Newfoundland sealing fleet, some 2500 men at St. John's, N. F., recently, the premier, Sir Edward Morris said, referring to some of the acts of his administration, that there was the fishery policy of new markets and new methods, in order to get more money for the fish, and new ways of putting it up. An agent had been sent to Brazil to work up new markets, and another abroad to discover new ways of putting up the fish. All fish disposed of fresh relieves the salt cod market and helps to get a better price for the latter. It would be a terrible thing for this country if the price of fish ever went so low that it would not pay our people to take it out of the water, and it was to prevent any such thing that the government were taking time by the forelock, and adopting such measures as would make it impossible for that day to come. He had been in the House for eight years previous to this term, and had never heard the word "codfish" mentioned excepting in the making of rules and regulations, which made it harder for them to catch it, and these were made by men who never hauled a cod out of the water or shot a seine in their lives. In Gloucester two years ago he had seen salt cod put up in 25 different and attractive ways in order to encourage people to eat it. You cannot sell a quintal of salt cod in London or New York, because the people can get fresh and our policy was to send there fresh.

HALIBUT AT PORTLAND.

Sch. Dictator Has 22,000 Pounds and Sch. Atalanta 3000 Pounds.

Sch. Dictator, Capt. Fred Thompson, is at Portland this morning with 22,000 pounds of fresh halibut. Sch. Atalanta, Capt. Richard Wadding, of the Georges handline fleet, is also there with 3000 pounds of halibut and some salt cod. The trip of the Dictator has been made in double quick time, as she has only been gone 14 days from Portland, the quickest trip for quite a while. This is the third trip for Capt. Thompson since the new year came in.

The fare of halibut of sch. Dictator sold at 10 cents per pound for white and eight cents for gray.

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CAUGHT SALMON ON TRAWL.

Taken by One of Crew of Sch. Gladys and Nellie off Highland Light.

Wholesale fish dealers at Boston were given a genuine surprise yesterday morning when Othon Alves, one of the crew of sch. Gladys and Nellie, came into the exchange and announced that he had a salmon for sale. Immediately everyone was alert to find out what he meant, and when Alves told the dealers that he had taken a salmon on a trawl, and that it was for sale, word was sent out to the buyers, who had gone from the room, but before they came back the fisherman had sold the salmon to Michael O'Donnell at 50 cents a pound.

The salmon was taken on the trawl last Monday while the crew of the Gladys and Nellie were fishing about 10 miles northeast of Highland light. This is the first salmon taken as early as this in years, and the first caught on fishing grounds away from the immediate shore in 12 years. The salmon weighed nine pounds, and the \$4.50 received for it goes to the fisherman who caught it.

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Newfoundland West Coast Fishery.

Herring and codfish are still fairly plentiful at St. Jacques, N. F., and other points along the southwest coast of Newfoundland and the people there are still securing good catches daily. At St. Jacques a few weeks ago, Isaac Burke secured 2000 barrels of herring in one haul. Operations, however, are greatly hindered owing to the want of frost preventing the men from freezing their catches. Capt. Zinck, who was at Harbor Breton a short time ago and had a contract with a city firm's agent there for a large supply of herring for Nova Scotia, was obliged to give it up, as the unfavorable weather interfered with work.

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Catalina, N. F., Bankers Getting Ready.

There will be four bankers prosecuting the fishery from Catalina, N. F., this summer, the Kuvera and Gertrude L., owned by P. Templeman, B. Snelgrove's Cactus and McCormack and Walsh's Drummer's Tax. Crews for each have been secured without difficulty, preliminary preparations are now being made and the vessels will leave shortly on the first trip. In addition to these vessels, all of which have Catalina skippers, there are five other masters from Catalina, who will command western coast vessels.

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FIVE ARE FROM PROVINCETOWN.

Thirty-Five Vessels Are Reported at Boston Today.

There's quite a bunch of shore boats at T wharf this morning, no less than 35 skippers lining up at the exchange to offer fares to the buyers. In the lot are some fine trips, although the average run is not large. Prices are not high, haddock bringing from \$2 to \$2.50 with large cod at \$2.50 to \$3, markets \$2, hake \$1 to \$2 and pollock \$2.

Five of the Provincetown fleet are in with fares of from 14,000 to 29,000 pounds, sch. Rose Dorothea having the latter amount.

Sch. Emily Cooney, Capt. Patrick Murphy has a fine catch, 28,000 pounds of haddock and schs. Athena, Ida S. Brooks, Elva L. Spurling, Thalia, Manomet and Mary E. Sinnett have good fares also.

The dealers are looking for a bunch of off-shore vessels by Monday.

The receipts in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Alice, 22,000 haddock, 2000 cod.
Sch. Mettacommet, 2000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Flavilla, 9000 haddock, 2000 cod, 2000 hake.
Sch. Catherine D. Enos, 600 haddock, 7000 cod.
Sch. Mildred V. Nunan, 5000 haddock, 1500 cod.
Sch. Motor, 12,000 haddock, 500 cod.
Sch. Mary Edith, 3500 haddock, 500 cod, 3000 hake.
Sch. Esther Gray, 5000 haddock, 3000 cod.
Sch. Lillian, 5500 haddock, 3000 cod.
Sch. Hattie P. Knowlton, 5000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. F. D. Brown, 500 cod.
Sch. George H. Lube, 2000 haddock, 1500 cod, 500 hake.
Sch. Oliva Sears, 1000 cod.
Sch. Mary Emerson, 4000 cod.
Sch. Hobo, 3000 cod.
Sch. Reliance, 4400 cod.
Sch. Jessie Costa, 20,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1000 hake, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Leo, 2000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Priscilla, 8000 haddock.
Sch. Athena, 18,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 500 hake, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Manomet, 5000 haddock, 2500 cod, 2000 hake, 1500 cusk, 1500 pollock.
Sch. Elva L. Spurling, 15,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Emily Cooney, 28,000 haddock.
Sch. Silveria, 8000 haddock, 500 cod, 500 hake.
Sch. Thalia, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Ida S. Brooks, 12,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 hake.
Sch. Mary E. Cooney 9000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Washakie.
Sch. Rose Dorothy, 25,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1000 pollock.
Sch. Nettie Franklin, 12,000 haddock, 2000 cod.
Sch. Arbitrator.
Sch. Louise R. Sylvia.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, 14,000 haddock.
Sch. Mary E. Sinnett, 11,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2000 hake, 2000 cusk, 500 pollock.
Sch. Gladys and Nellie, 12,000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Haddock, \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt. large cod, \$2.50 to \$3; market cod, \$2; hake, \$1 to \$2; pollock \$2.

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FLORIDA FISHING INDUSTRY.

Has Many Branches and Employs More Than 10,000 Men.

With a littoral of over 6000 miles, and with two-thirds of this immense line washed by the Gulf of Mexico, redundant in every form of marine life, the peninsula of Florida would indeed fail in her part if she did not contribute a full quota to the maritime products of our country. There are many persons, however, who do not realize the great scope of the fishing industry in this state. A brief glance at the latest fisheries report from Florida will enable one to obtain a better idea of the present status of the business.

There are 10,000 men engaged steadily in this occupation in the state, besides a few thousand more who, from their little freeholds near the coast, fish in "between crops," which means while the potatoes, corn, cane and oranges are ripening in the luxuriant sun and soil. Following the general rule of computation in such cases, you will deduce that probably a hundred thousand people here gain their subsistence wholly or in large measure from the teeming waters.

Of these fisher-people, the mulletmen with their families are by far the most numerous, and, in themselves, they deserve the most attention, although the sponge-fishers, because of the quaintness of their occupation and the peculiar nature of their marine harvests, are by many looked on as the most interesting class of fishermen on this continent.

Of the craft engaged in fishing off the Florida coast, only about four hundred larger vessels are shown, something like half of these being sponging craft; but, to swell the total, you must take account of almost 6000 small boats, valued at more than half a million dollars. The diving apparatus of the spongers, although so lately introduced here, with the invasion of the Greek divers two years ago, already foots up a total valuation of more than a hundred thousand dollars. And this apart from the boats, as well as shore and accessory property. The sponge marketed from our waters last year sold for \$544,880, a close second to the mullet harvest, which brought Florida \$652,030. Red snapper comes next to these in value, bringing in cash returns of \$434,060, with shad ranking fourth of our marine products, selling last year for \$319,800.

The oyster business of Florida is also considerable, and, contrary to the prevalent notion of the bivalve in semi-tropical waters, it brings fine monetary returns. Last year the oysters of the peninsula waters sold for something over a quarter of a million dollars, making it evident that it would pay well to cultivate and harvest this toothsome crop with more assiduity.

Of other fish that always find ready market trout, Spanish mackerel, pompano, bluefish, bass, sheepshead, groupers, catfish, bream, all brought handsome returns to the fisher-folks of the peninsula, each adding its quota to the grand total of three and a half million dollars for last year's catch.

Among the final items of interest it is noted that turtle and terrapin were caught from these waters to the amount of 183,700 lbs., selling for \$22,110, while the alligator hides shipped to market numbered 50,900, bringing smaller returns than one might expect, \$48,230, which was less than one dollar per pelt.

Portland Fish Notes.

Wednesday's arrivals: Schs. Lizzie May, with 3000 lbs. fish; Fanny Reed, 4000; sloop's Defender, 5000; Crusader, 5000; Hazel B., 4000; Laconia, 4500.

It is a fact a little known to Portland people that many of the fish brought into this port are landed so soon after they are caught that some of them have been found alive in the sheds. This is especially true of the small boats, those with motors, for they are able to get out and back so quickly that the fish are landed at the wholesalers' within several hours after being caught. The run of fish during the present winter has been exceptionally good, for they have averaged large and firm all the time.

A neat looking 30 foot hunter cabin gasoline motor boat, built at South Portland by J. E. Davidson, has just been put overboard. It is owned by the F. S. Willard Co., and will be employed in the lobster fisheries in Casco Bay in command of Capt. Charles Johnson. A 12-horse power Hartford engine is expected to give her a speed of about nine miles an hour.

The coasting packet M. J. Sewall, which put in here Wednesday from Jonesport, has on board a consignment of about 500 barrels of clam bait which she will deliver at Gloucester, where there is a great demand for bait at the present time.

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TWO FRESH HALIBUTERS.

Leading Fish Receipts Since Yesterday Morning.

Fresh halibut is the leading feature of the receipts here since yesterday morning. Sch. Niagara, which came in just before noon yesterday and hauled for 30,000 pounds, weighed off the splendid fare of 43,000 pounds, the second largest trip of the season thus far. This morning sch. Cavalier, Capt. Robert B. Porper, is in with a nice halibut catch.

Capt. Porper hails his fare for 30,000 pounds of halibut and a few thousand weight of salt cod. The vessel is from the Grand bank. Capt. Porper reports speaking no vessel since he saw sch. Monitor some little time ago.

Sch. Niagara which arrived yesterday, struck fine fishing. She also was from Grand bank and not far from the spot where sch. Cavalier fished. Capt. Kilpatrick had about 25,000 pounds on board and made one more set before starting home and struck it rich by so doing, for the dories hauled back 18,000 pounds, almost a trip in itself, as the result of the one stringing out of the trawls. The Niagara weighed out almost 42,000 pounds of good fish and the fare ran nearly two-thirds white.

Yesterday afternoon the steam netter Quoddy came in with 6000 pounds of fresh fish.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, Capt. Henry Curtis, came in during the forenoon with 60,000 pounds of fresh cod and haddock.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Cavalier, Grand Bank, 35,000 lbs. halibut, 3000 lbs. salt cod.

Steamer Quoddy, shore, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Dictator, via Portland.

Sch. Walter P. Goulart, via Boston.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, Georges, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. M. J. Sewall, Jonesport, Me., boxed herring and salted clams.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, haddocking.

Sch. Ellen C. Burke, shore.

Steamer Nomad, shore.

Sch. Rex, haddocking.

Sch. Mystery, halibuting.

Sch. Kineo, halibuting.

Sch. Yakima, halibuting.

Sch. Teazer, halibuting.

Today's Fish Market.

Bank halibut, 9 1-2 cents per lb. for white and 7 3-4 cents per lb. for gray. Georges halibut, 10c per lb. for white and 8c for gray.

Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.

Large salt handline Georges cod, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3 per cwt.; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2; snappers, \$1.

Salt pollock, \$1.25 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1.25; salt hake, \$1.25.

Splitting prices for fresh fish. Western cod, large \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.60; medium cod, \$1.40; cusk, \$1.60 for large, \$1.20 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 90 cts.; pollock, round, 65 cts.; dressed, 70 cts.

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Good Stock.

Sch. Niagara, Capt. Melvin Kilpatrick, stocked \$2734 as the result of her recent fine halibut trip, the crew sharing \$91.60.

Halibut Sale.

The fresh halibut fare of sch. Cavalier was sold to the New England Fish Company at 10 cents per pound for white and 8 cents per pound for gray.

Schs. Tacoma and Monitor Spoken.

Capt. Melvin Kilpatrick of sch. Niagara reports speaking schs. Tacoma and Monitor on Grand bank recently.

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BOSTON MAYOR ENDORSES PLAN.

Writes Gov. Draper Favoring Removal of Fish Trade to South Boston.

Mayor Fitzgerald Wednesday sent a letter to Gov. Draper endorsing the proposition of the fish merchants of Boston to lease and improve a new pier just east of the present Commonwealth dock.

The governor replied promptly that he was giving the matter personal attention and has been for several weeks.

This movement was started by the fish dealers because of the increasing congestion at T wharf, which has made it imperative to find new quarters if the growth of the fish industry in Boston is not to be retarded.

After reviewing the advantages claimed for the plan, and the manner in which it is proposed, the dealers, the city and the state shall co-operate, the mayor closed with the hope that the governor will keep in view the interests of the city as a third party in any arrangement.

Gov. Draper replied that for several weeks he together with the harbor and land commission has been investigating the matter very carefully and assures the mayor that he appreciates the needs of the merchants and desires to accommodate them in any way he can, while at the same time safeguarding the interests of the commonwealth.

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Lunenburg, N. S., Fish Notes.

Sch. Frank Adams, Zinck, from Newfoundland, with a cargo of herring, arrived here Monday afternoon.

Two new vessels are being built at Ernst's shipyard, Mahone Bay.

The two-masted schooner Mayola was launched from Naugler's shipyard, Bridgewater, Monday afternoon at high tide. The vessel, which is up-to-date in every way, is owned by Zwicker & Co., limited, of Lunenburg, and will be used for banks fishing.

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FISH PLENTIFUL, PRICES RUN LOW.

Some of the T Wharf Arrivals Have Good Trips.

Boston has a fair amount of fish this morning on a low market. One off-shore craft, nine of the bay netters and 20 market boats comprise the fleet in. Some of the market boats have fine fares and sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, from Georges has a big catch, 90,000 pounds of cod and haddock. Off-shore haddock brought \$1.50, with off-shore cod at \$2.25 and no price on market cod.

The market boats received from \$1.75 to \$2.50 for their haddock and \$3 to \$3.50 for large cod. Hake went from \$1.75 to \$3.50 and pollock brought \$1.75.

Of the market boats sch. Harmony is high with 35,000 pounds, a fine catch. Sch. Metamora has 27,000 pounds, sch. Seaconnet 16,000 pounds, and sch. Warren M. Goodspeed 16,000 pounds. The others range from 8000 to 13,000 pounds. The little netters have from 2000 to 4000 pounds each.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Marguerite, 2300 cod.

Sch. Mabel Leavitt, 4500 cod.

Sch. Marion, 2300 cod.

Sch. Actor, 6500 haddock, 1500 cod.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, 40,000 haddock, 50,000 cod.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, 8000 haddock, 1000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Valentina, 6000 haddock, 1500 cod, 2000 cusk.

Sch. Azorean, 200 haddock, 2000 cod, 800 pollock.

Sch. Lydia, 1000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Dixie, 6000 haddock, 2500 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Topsail Girl, 6500 haddock, 2000 cod.

Sch. Sarah, 2500 cod.

Sch. Helen B. Thomas, 8000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Florida, 8000 haddock.

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Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 7000 haddock, 2500 cod, 3000 hake, 4900 pollock.

Sch. Margaret Dillon, 1700 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Metamora, 22,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. Galatea, 6000 haddock, 3000 cod, 1000 cusk.

Sch. Rose Standish, 7000 haddock, 1200 cod.

Sch. Maud F. Silva, 10,000 haddock, 1500 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Harmony, 18,000 haddock, 6000 cod, 6000 hake, 5000 pollock.

Sch. Emily Sears, 5000 haddock.

Sch. Genesta, 12,000 haddock, 1000 hake.

Sch. Seaconnet, 11,000 haddock, 2000 cod, 500 hake, 2500 pollock.

Sch. Yankee, 10,000 haddock, 500 cod.

Sch. N. A. Rowe, 3500 cod.

Sch. Reliance, 2300 cod.

Sch. On Time, 2500 cod.

Sch. Eva Avina, 2500 cod.

Sch. Walter P. Goulart, 15,000 haddock.

Off-shore haddock, \$1.50 per cwt.; off-shore large cod, \$2.25; shore haddock, \$1.75 to \$2.50; shore large cod, \$3 to \$3.50; shore market cod, \$1.75 to \$2; hake, \$1.75 to \$3.50; pollock, \$1.75.

Curing Fish High in Air.

High up in the air on the westerly side of Central wharf, Portland, hundreds of fish are now being cured. They are spread out with their thick coating of salt on the new flakes just erected by Lord Bros. The work of this firm adds still more to the fish industry of Portland. Up to the present time, Lord Bros. have cured their fish in South Portland, but owing to the coming of the sardine packing plant there, they removed their business to the Portland side of the harbor and thus have added to Portland's industries.

The new location is much more convenient than the old, for the fish may be handled more quickly and once ready for shipment freight cars may be loaded right at the doors of the sheds. Fishermen may bring their fares to the wharf where they may easily be unloaded and the sea food taken care of. It is an interesting process to watch the curing of the fish, and it is by no means a rapid one. The first step is to give the sea food a thorough cleaning to remove all impurities. Then the fish are packed in the butts, covered with salt and kept for three weeks, during which the fish make their own pickle. Then comes another washing after which the fish are spread out on the flakes and cured in the sun. Two days are usually sufficient for this process if the sun is bright.

The fish flakes used by Lord Bros. were put into operation for the first time Tuesday. They are unusually large and it is estimated that fully 100 quintals of fish may be cured at one time.

Sardine Factory at Portland.

Portland's latest industry, sardine packing, will be in full operation in a short time. The plant of E. W. Brown & Co., at South Portland is practically ready to be operated and will be in condition by the time the herring are schooling next month. All the machinery has been brought from the eastern part of the state and the building itself is completed and ready for occupancy.

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Halibut Sales.

The fresh halibut fare of sch. Paragon sold to the American Halibut Company at 10 cents per pound for white and 8 cents per pound for gray.

The fare of the sch. Jennie B. Hodgdon sold to the same concern at the same figures.

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Lunenburg, N. S., Fish Notes.

Sch. Lila D. Young came off the slip Monday morning.

Sch. Muriel M. Young sailed for the banks Tuesday.

Schs. Oregon and Hazel L. Ritcey have finished fitting for the banks.

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Stock of Sch. Cavalier.

Sch. Cavalier, Capt. Robert B. Porper, stocked \$4021.65 on her recent fresh halibut trip, the crew sharing \$85.29. Some of the crew had quite a lot of handline fish, which added materially to what they made, several of them having between \$90 and \$100 coming to them.